



APR 01 2025 1c

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES for the week of March 24-28, 2025

EXECUTIVE SESSION – March 24, 2025 at 8 a.m.

The Board convened in open session at 8 a.m. to discuss litigation. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, Administrator Mielke, Risk Management Sullenger, Real Estate Capps, and Prosecuting Attorney's Office Reno.

The Board may recess into Executive Session to consider employment or dismissal of personnel, to review the performance of a public employee, to consult with legal counsel, to consider the position to be taken in collective bargaining, to consider acquisition or sale of real estate, or other matters per RCW 42.30.110.

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to executive session for 30 minutes, CRJs, mc

The Board recessed into executive session at 8:01 a.m.

The Board convened in open session at 8:30 a.m. and CMF noted that the Prosecuting Attorney's Office will move forward with option A as discussed in executive session. No formal action is needed.

Meeting concluded at 8:31 a.m.

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.

The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, March 24, 2025. Present were Commissioners French, Ozias, and Johnson and Administrator Mielke.

Items of discussion per the agenda published March 20 were:

- Calendar/Correspondence
- Request for waiver of Bid/RFP/quote requirements with ESChat for radio gateway modules
- Resolution altering voting precinct boundary lines for annexations
- Annual certification for Road Fund expenditures for fish passage barrier removal and traffic law enforcement
- Notice to call for bids to be received no later than Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 10 a.m. regarding Dungeness Reservoir Site Debris Removal Project
- Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. regarding a proposed ordinance titled an emergency ordinance amending Chapter 27.12 Critical Areas regarding floodplain management to ensure continued participation in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program NFIP
- Letter regarding local impacts of federal decision-making
- Discussion and next steps regarding Cultural Access Program
- Resolution appointing Jalyn Boado to the Housing Solutions Committee
- Resolution appointing Victoria Jones and Molly McAleer to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee
- Agreement with Peninsula Daily News for legal advertising
- Legislative session update
- Federal grant revenue and expenditure burn rate overview

Meeting concluded at 10:56 a.m. and continued to an executive session regarding litigation to be held on March 24, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – March 24, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 1:30 p.m. to discuss litigation. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, Administrator Mielke, Finance Department Lane, Turner, and Hill, Risk Management Sullenger, Human Resources Wenzl, Prosecuting Attorney's Office Boughton and outside counsel Mara Vinnedge and Jeffrey Curnutt.

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The Board may recess into Executive Session to consider employment or dismissal of personnel, to review the performance of a public employee, to consult with legal counsel, to consider the position to be taken in collective bargaining, to consider acquisition or sale of real estate, or other matters per RCW 42.30.110.

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to executive session for 1 hour and 15 minutes, CRJs, mc

The Board recessed into executive session at 1:30 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 3 p.m. and Commissioner French noted that the session needed to be extended for 15 minutes.

The Board recessed into executive session at 3:01 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 3:16 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to empower staff to work with legal counsel to formulate a potential settlement agreement and offer, CRJs, mc

Meeting concluded at 3:17 p.m. and continued to an executive session regarding collective bargaining to be held on March 24, 2025 at 3:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – March 24, 2025 at 3:45 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 3:45 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, Administrator Mielke, Human Resources Wenzl, Finance Department Lane and Turner, and outside counsel Matt Lynch.

The Board may recess into Executive Session to consider employment or dismissal of personnel, to review the performance of a public employee, to consult with legal counsel, to consider the position to be taken in collective bargaining, to consider acquisition or sale of real estate, or other matters per RCW 42.30.110.

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to executive session for 30 minutes, CRJs, mc

The Board recessed into executive session at 3:46 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 4:16 p.m. and CMF noted that the session needs to be extended for an additional 28 minutes.

The Board recessed into executive session at 4:17 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 4:45 p.m. and CMF noted no action will be taken.

Meeting concluded at 4:45 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 25, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Ozias and Johnson and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt the agenda as presented, CMOs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS

- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on item 1e

CONSENT AGENDA

1a Approval of vouchers for the week of March 17

The Following warrants and electronic payments are approved for payment:

Accounts Payable:	Total
Warrant numbers: 9936753-9936794; 9936801-9936950; 9936957-9936983	\$982,062.00
Electronic payments dates: n/a	\$0.00
Total Accounts Payable:	\$982,062.00

1b Approval of minutes for the week of March 17

1c Resolution to reauthorize any prior existing account and establish an imprest bank account for the Department of Community Development

1d Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. regarding a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 26.10 Consolidated Development Permit Process, Section 26.10.540, Time limit for final decision expectations

1e Annual certification for Road Fund expenditures for fish passage barrier removal and traffic law enforcement

1f Proclamation recognizing March 29 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt the consent agenda, CMOs, mc

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CRJ recognized March 29 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day
- CRJ commented on Chamber job fair, furniture manufacturing, HealtheVet
- CMO commented on Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, marine traffic, senate bill
- CMF commented on YMCA, department staff meeting, Recompete

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

2a Agreement amendment 2 with Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts for Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Plan FJCIP

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

BUDGET

3a Resolution for consideration to adopt the following Budget Revisions:

HHS - Operations – Reallocating expenditures to install an employee badge access door at the 3rd Street building/\$7,558

Sheriff - Jail – Reallocating the underspend from Jail salary due to staffing shortage to Norpoint Protective Services for courthouse and juvenile facility security/\$85,220

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

3b Resolution for consideration to adopt the following Supplemental Appropriations:

Auditor – Office of the Secretary of State Information Security Funds reimbursement expected in 2024 but received in 2025/\$26,558

Sheriff – Boating Safety – Increased annual award from the WA State Parks and Recreation Commission for Recreational Boating Safety to be used for overtime and purchase of small tools and equipment/\$10,424

HHS – Foundational Public Health Services –

- Additional one-time funding increase from the Department of Health Foundational Public Health Services to be used for communicable disease and rabies-related costs (1 of 2)/\$120,00
- Reallocating unanticipated projected funding to HHS Operations to purchase capital equipment for County public health emergencies (1 of 2)/\$95,000

HHS Operations –

- Additional one-time funding increase from the Department of Health Foundational Public Health Services to be used for communicable disease and rabies-related costs (2 of 2)/\$120,000

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- Additional funding is received from Department of Health Consolidated Contract #2 to be used for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and workforce development grants/\$166,066
- Additional funding from HHS Foundational Public Health Services to the HHS Operations for the purchase of forklift, generator and drone (2 of 2)/\$95,000
Community Development – Environmental Quality – Contributions from the cities of Forks, Port Angeles, and Sequim per interlocal agreement for shared work product on the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan/\$184,200

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

HEARING(S)

4a Consideration of resolution adopting the following Debatable Emergencies:

Community Development-Permit Center – Additional billing from Tyler Technologies' Enterprise Permit and Licensing (EPL) software/\$10,890
HHS-Chemical Dependency Mental Health – Additional 10% funding for 3 Deputy Prosecuting Attorney positions/\$67,923

- Mark Lane, briefed the Board

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to open the public hearing, CRJs, mc

- CMF noted no testimony was provided

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to close the public hearing, CRJs, mc

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Cheri Kidd, Port Angeles, commented on Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services letters regarding septic system, City of Port Angeles sewer hook-up
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on virtual appearance, work session item 4a letter, district III meetings, Clallam Bay Sekiu Community Meeting on April 10
- Stephanie Day, Sequim, commented on Cultural Access Tax, hierarchy of needs
- Jacob Seeger, Port Angeles, commented on Cultural Access Tax, community issues
- Kari Chance, Port Angeles, commented on Cultural Access Tax
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on fish culverts, prevailing wage, taxpayers
- Steve Raider-Ginsburg, Port Angeles, commented on Cultural Access Tax
- Laurel Harvest, Port Angeles, commented on the Cultural Access Tax
- Steve Rodman, Sequim, commented on the Cultural Access Tax
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on Cultural Access Tax
- Amanda Bacon, Sequim, commented on Cultural Access Tax
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim commented on Vietnam Veterans, Cultural Access Tax, job loss on the Olympic Peninsula, Happy Family gravel pit
- Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles, commented on Planning Commission, Cultural Access Tax
- David Herbelin, Sequim, commented Cultural Access Tax
- Mark Hirst, Sequim, commented on work session item 4a letter

Meeting concluded at 10:15 a.m. and continued to an executive session regarding employee performance review to be held on March 25, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened in open session at 12:35 p.m. to discuss employee performance review. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, and Administrator Mielke.

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ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to executive session for 1 hour, CRJs, mc

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The Board recessed into executive session at 12:35 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 1:35 p.m. and CMF noted that and additional 55 minutes is needed.

The Board recessed into executive session at 1:35 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 2:30 p.m. and CMF noted no action will be taken.

Meeting concluded at 2:31 p.m. and continued to 9 a.m., Monday, March 31, 2025

The Board of Commissioners attended a WSAC virtual update, Charter Review Commission Meeting, William Shore Memorial Pool District Meeting, Clallam County PUD Meeting, WSACT Legislative update, and Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony during the week of March 24, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1st day of April 2025

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Excused

Mike French, Chair
Randall S. Johnson

Randy Johnson
Mark Ozias

Mark Ozias

ATTEST:

L. Gores

Loni Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

ATM Administrator Todd Mielke
CMO Commissioner Mark Ozias
CRJ Commissioner Randy Johnson
CMF Commissioner Mike French

m moved
mc motion carried
s seconded



Public Comment

Jeff Tozzer

3/25/25

There is a troubling double standard in how this commission chooses to act—or not act—on issues that directly impact the people of this county.

Beginning with the Jamestown Tribe's trust land conversions, the Bureau of Indian Affairs recently approved taking nearly 100 acres off the tax rolls. That's a direct financial hit to our county. Many people asked you to send a letter voicing concern, yet you refused. You have never sent one letter to the BIA, ever.

But when staff reductions at Olympic National Park were announced? You wasted no time drafting a letter to federal leaders. Why the selective outrage? Why is a staffing issue at the park worth a letter, but a decision that affects our county's tax base isn't? Why draft a letter about burdening taxpayers if there are Medicaid cuts, but not draft a letter that points out property owners are also burdened with increasing taxes as more land becomes tax-exempt?

Then there's the sales tax increase you're considering—a 0.1% hike for arts, culture, and heritage programs. I'm all for supporting the community, but you're planning to pass this tax without a public vote. At a time when people are struggling with job losses and rising costs, you think it's okay to push a new tax through without asking them? Your letter to federal leaders outlines the consequences of "unpredictable actions." Yet, Commissioner Ozias, last year you said you would support passing a Culture Tax *with* a vote of the people; now you intend to do it *without* a vote of the people. That doesn't sound predictable, and it doesn't sound like democracy—it sounds like the threats to dismantling democracy are a lot closer to home than Washington D.C.

The bottom line is this: You'll write letters when it fits your agenda, but when it comes to fighting for taxpayers or letting them have a say, you fall silent. That's not leadership. That's picking and choosing when democracy matters.

Please be consistent. If you're willing to engage with federal leaders on one issue, do it for others that impact us just as much—if not more. And if you truly believe in democracy, let the people vote on this new tax.

Jeff Tozzer, Sequim